

# FACT SHEET: **Express Lanes**



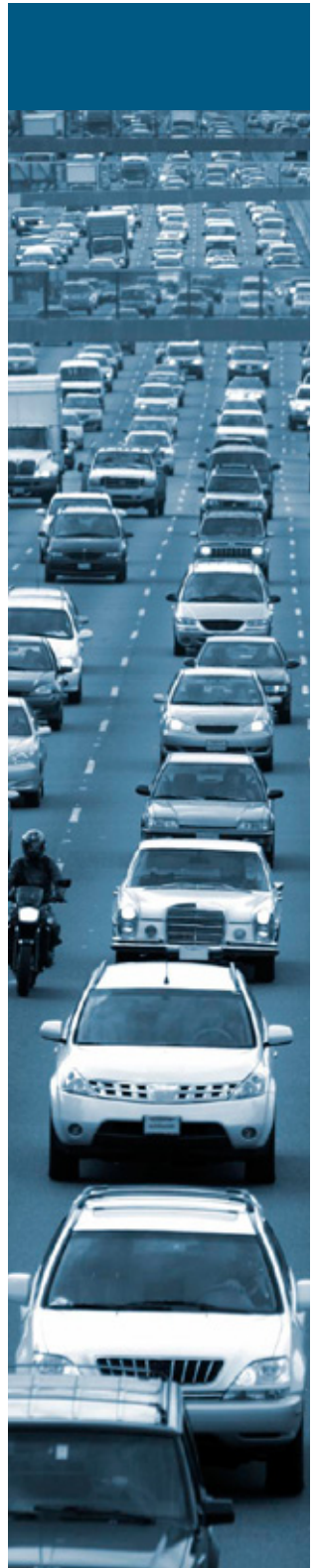
## State Route 237 Express Lanes Project

### Overview

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is implementing the Silicon Valley Express Lanes Program to provide congestion relief through more effective use of existing roadways. It will also provide a new mobility option and a funding source for transportation improvements including public transit.

As part of the Program, the SR 237, U.S. 101, SR 85 and parts of I-680 corridor will be converted from carpool lanes to express lanes. SR 237/I-880 Express Connectors Project is the first phase of SR 237 Express Lanes Project that is converting the carpool lane connector ramps at SR 237/I-880 interchange to express lanes. Carpools with two or more occupants, motorcycles, transit buses and eligible hybrids will continue to use the express lanes free of charge. Solo drivers will be given the option of paying a toll to use the express lanes during commute hours.

SR 237 Express Lanes tolls will be collected electronically using the proven FasTrak technology already in use on the Bay Area bridges. Tolls for solo drivers will vary based on the level of congestion and will be dynamically adjusted to maintain a free-flowing ride on the express lanes.



**A new choice  
for a better  
commute!**



- ① Express lanes are separated from regular lanes by a painted buffer.  
Electronic signs display the current toll for solo drivers with FasTrak.
- ② Toll will vary based on the level of congestion in the express lanes and will be adjusted to maintain free-flowing traffic.  
An overhead antenna reads motorist's FasTrak transponder and the
- ③ correct toll is automatically deducted from prepaid FasTrak account:  
No toll booths, no slowing.

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### Project Funding Partners





## Project Benefits

- **Increase efficiency of existing roadway:** Existing carpool lane connectors have the available capacity to accommodate more vehicles. More efficient use of existing roadways is accomplished by encouraging transit and carpools, and allowing solo drivers to pay a fee to access the lanes.
- **Fast, reliable travel:** Through the use of dynamic pricing, VTA can manage the amount of traffic in the express lanes and maintain free-flowing speeds even when the general purpose lanes are congested. Motorists who choose to use the express lanes will benefit from reliable travel times.
- **Revenue reinvested in the corridor:** Revenue from tolls would maintain the facility; enhance transit and provide enforcement by the California Highway Patrol.

## Project Funding

\$3.5 million	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
\$4 million	Federal Value Pricing Pilot Program (VPPP)
\$3.6 million	Local Funding

**\$11.1 million Total Funding**

## Schedule

Spring 2012:	Open Express Lanes for Service
2015:	Phase II 237 Express Lanes

## How to Reach Us

If you have any questions about the VTA Express Lanes Project, please call VTA's Community Outreach Department at (408) 321-7575, (TTY) for the hearing-impaired (408) 321-2330. You may also visit us on the web at [www.vta.org](http://www.vta.org), or e-mail us at [community.outreach@vta.org](mailto:community.outreach@vta.org).

**VTA Mission:** VTA provides sustainable, accessible, community-focused transportation options that are innovative, environmentally responsible, and promote the vitality of our region.